

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1 - 17 Cancelled

18. (New) A propshaft assembly operable to transmit torque between a first rotary member and second rotary member, the propshaft comprising:

a cylindrical tube having first and second ends;

a first cap coupled to said first end of said tube, said first cap being adapted to be drivingly coupled to the first rotary member;

a second cap coupled to said second end of said tube, said second cap being adapted to be drivingly coupled to the second rotary member; and

a tubular insert member positioned within said tube between said first and second ends, said insert member having a first end, a second end and an outer cylindrical surface, said outer cylindrical surface engaging an inner surface of said tube, said insert member including first and second slots radially extending therethrough, said first slot axially extending from said first end of said insert member a distance greater than half the length of said insert member, said second slot axially extending from said second end of said insert member a distance greater than half the length of said insert member.

19. (New) The propshaft assembly of claim 18 wherein said first and second slots extend equal distances, each distance being about five-eighths of the length of the insert member.

20. (New) The propshaft assembly of claim 19 wherein said tubular insert member includes a wall having a substantially constant thickness.

21. (New) The propshaft assembly of claim 20 wherein said first cap includes two axially extending and circumferentially spaced apart projections, each projection including an aperture extending therethrough, said apertures being coaxially aligned with one another.

22. (New) The propshaft assembly of claim 21 further including a universal joint adapted to interconnect said tube and the first rotary member.

23. (New) The propshaft assembly of claim 21 wherein said insert member is operable to attenuate vibration produced during the transmission of torque between the first and second rotary members.

24. (New) The propshaft assembly of claim 18 wherein said insert member is operable in a temporarily deformed state to define a substantially cylindrically shaped member having a first outer diameter and a relaxed state to define a second outer diameter, said second outer diameter being greater than said first outer diameter, whereby said insert member is operable for insertion within said tube when in said deformed state and operable to engage said tube when in said relaxed state.

25. (New) A propshaft assembly operable to transmit torque between a first rotary member and second rotary member, the propshaft comprising:

a cylindrical tube having first and second ends;

a first cap coupled to said first end of said tube, said first cap being adapted to be drivingly coupled to the first rotary member; and

a tubular insert member positioned within said tube between said first and second ends, said insert member having a first end, a second end and an outer cylindrical surface, said insert member being elastically deformable to define a reduced size to allow insertion of said insert member within said tube, said insert member including first and second slots radially extending therethrough, said first slot axially extending from said first end of said insert member, said second slot axially extending from said second end of said insert member.

26. (New) The propshaft assembly of claim 25 wherein said insert member includes a wall having a substantially constant wall thickness.

27. (New) The propshaft assembly of claim 26 wherein said first and second slots are circumferentially spaced apart and axially overlap.

28. (New) The propshaft assembly of claim 27 wherein said insert member is operable to attenuate vibration produced during the transmission of torque between the first and second rotary members.

29. (New) The propshaft assembly of claim 28 wherein said outer cylindrical surface of said insert member engages an inner surface of said tube.